

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Attorney Docket No.: **ASAIN0173**
Kazuhiko KATSUMATA) Confirmation No.: 6594
Serial No.: 10/562,498) Group Art Unit: 3749
Filed: December 27, 2005) Examiner: Gregory A. WILSON
For: GAS COOLING TYPE VACUUM) Date: October 20, 2009
HEAT TREATING FURNACE AND)
COOLING GAS DIRECTION)
SWITCHING DEVICE THEREFOR)

COMMENTS (C) ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

MAIL STOP: ISSUE FEE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed July 24, 2009, please enter the following comments regarding the application identified above as follows:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed July 24, 2009, Applicant makes the following Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance presented by the Examiner in the Office Action of July 24, 2009, at 2, lines 4-12, and in the Office Action of October 15, 2008, at 2, lines 4-8. The Examiner's Reasons for Allowance deviates from the language of the allowed claims. Therefore, to the extent that the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance mischaracterize the allowed claims 1-3 and 5-8, Applicant objects. The claims, as written, speak for themselves. Applicant agrees that the claimed invention would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made, and that no prima facie showing of anticipation or obviousness could be made in view of the prior art of record.

The below-signed attorney for Applicant welcomes any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.



Joerg-Uwe Szipl
Registration No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.
Suite PH-1
2300 Ninth Street, South
Arlington, VA 22204
Telephone: (703) 979-5700
Facsimile: (703) 979-7429
Email: gands@szipl.com
Customer No.: 24203